

THE Bloomfield Record.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

S. MORRIS HULIN, Editor and Proprietor

Office 29 Broad Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1895.

Local Self-Government.

It is a good deal easier to prescribe nauseous medicine for other people than to take it oneself. The political doctors and bosses who have been practicing on Bloomfield and Glen Ridge in the last few years and months, should lay this truth to heart. They prescribed last spring that abominable legislative nostrum "City Election," that has by this time in effect disgusted both of those long-suffering patients. All "know" now that the City Election ballot was compounded solely to perpetuate ring rule for both places. Bloomfield took the seven-hundred-dollar election down with scarcely a wry face; but Glen Ridge refused it, with stern determination to hold on to local self-government, maintaining her disengagement from boss rule at whatever cost. Her citizens preferred to assess and spend their taxes themselves, and not to trust the township politicians any longer to unjustly assess and expend taxes for them. That is putting this entire borough question in a nutshell.

And now as a result of foolishly fighting Glen Ridge, and prolonging the trouble, some Newark politicians are getting ready to have put through the incoming Legislature a bill by which they expect to take both town ship and borough into the Newark city boundaries.

And why not? If it was right for our local wire-agers to sneak a law through the Legislature enabling them to take Glen Ridge into their City of Bloomfield without the consent of the people to be so taken in, by parity of reasoning why cannot Newark wire-pullers wipe out the identity and local self-government of Bloomfield, and Glen Ridge, if they can get "law" manufactured to sanction it?

Our ring politicians wanted Glen Ridge, and still want it, because it is a rich territory, a bigger pasture and wider crib for them and their henchmen to put their noses into.

The whole business is evil from beginning to end. That any Legislature should thus have acquired the habit—the mere bâth-bâth—of laying in any bill to abrogate the rights of the people of any hamlet, borough or town to decide for themselves under what government they shall live, subject, of course, to the constitution, is a piece of camel's-nose impudence and insinuation that ought to be haled off once and forever. If any of the gentlemen who are so fond of going to Trenton were to wake up some morning and find the fence around his own house and garden removed and his property "consolidated" with his neighbor's enclosure, he would get apoplectic with wrath and call the business a steal. And he would be telling the truth.

And is a steal, a steal because a Legislature does it! Somehow an immorality done according to law does not strike the people the same as one not according thereto. This habit of "passing a law" to sanctify a wrong, especially the wrong of silencing the people's fundamental right to consent to the form of government under which they shall live, has gone far enough, yes, altogether too far. The "consent of the governed," of which every American citizen makes so much boast that it is the principle upon which the government of this country rests, has almost entirely disappeared, and for it has been substituted the consent of the political bosses, miscalculated representative government.

Now is the time to put a short stop to the usurpation by our servants of their masters' rights. Inch by inch they have crept along, occupying first one small outwork of our liberties, then another, without awaking more than a weak protest, until now they are in the very citadel and turning us out. The people have allowed it, too. Therein lies the bitterness of our wrong. It was our own fault, for, as it has been well said "every government is as bad as the people will permit it to be." This being so let us make a determined effort to defeat this proposed capture by the Newark gang of political cornrourants, and make other such attempts impossible by restoring our old constitutional right of supervising and correcting our servants' acts by the just now shelved Referendum: Let the people rule.

Musical Instruction.

Mrs. F. W. Bennett's musical season begins Thursday, September 20. Special attention given to beginners. For terms, etc., address or call at No. 537 Bloomfield Ave.

Read THE RECORD and keep well informed.

Another Cleveland Blunder.
It is unfortunate that our system of government leaves in the hands of one man the power to block legislation by a veto, or to influence law-making by patronage. These thoughts are suggested by the latest deliveries of President Cleveland regarding finances in his message to Congress.

He says, "The Treasury notes issued in payment of silver purchases under the law of 1890 were necessary treated as gold obligations at the option of the holder." Who taught Mr. Cleveland such costly sophistry?

On Thursday evening the Young People's Guild of Christ Church held an entertainment in the Guild House. Vocal and instrumental music occupied the first part of the evening, and dancing concluded a most enjoyable evening.

The Gejo Club which gave so successfully the play "The Duchess of Malfi" at the residence of Mr. S. Van Bokkelen, on November 15th, will meet again together with another called "My Aunt's Peacock." The play will be given at a early date at the Montclair Club House to the benefit of the Montclair Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbot Root were at home to a large number of friends on Tuesday evening.

Mr. Wm. E. Smith of Winsor Place has returned from an extended western trip.

The ladies of the Glen Ridge Congregational Church will give a social to the members of the congregation at Glen Ridge Hall this Friday evening.

He alludes to the issue under the act of July 14, 1890, but our readers examine the wording on the series of 1891, and he will find something altogether different from what is quoted by Mr. Benedict's pupil; it reads: "The United States of America will pay to bearer Five Dollars in Gold." Whose word is it, Mr. Cleveland?

A useful lesson in finance can be learned by each one reading carefully the bills in daily use. Next week we propose to give a talk on our financial middle, taking our texts from currency in daily use. In the meantime let us bow the knee to the gods.

A Friend in Glen Ridge.
An alarm from box 61, at 8.45 last night, called the Bloomfield and Glen Ridge departments to the residence of A. R. Pickett on Douglas Road. A Rochester lumb in the parlor had set fire to the lamp shade, and the flames were spreading through the partition of the sliding door before it was noticed. Essex Truck Company was first to arrive at the house. Phoenix Hose Company came next, and the Glen Ridge Hose Company arrived a few minutes after. The Essex men, with their extinguishers and other appliances, soon had the fire under control, the Phoenix Company having in the meantime attached to a hydrant and stretched a line of hose into the house. The Glen Ridge Company proceeded also to set their own fire extinguishers and others of whom had been dropped in for a change of position. The men who arrived to drive them out of the house. This caused some disturbance, but fortunately no serious collision took place.

The Glen Ridge firemen were the first to get into the house, and had no difficulty in getting out again. The men behind the scenes, however, had a hard task stamped with a stamp of approval. When my friend made his way to the scene, he, behind which stood not a cloak, but an ordinary porter wearing the livery of the bank. This porter had his hands full of similar metal disks. After a weary waiting called out the number—say, 303—on my friend's disk.

He was then informed that identifying his check is another number, identifying at the first golosh, and then received his money, not in the currency or form which he wished for, but in such shape as the porter had at hand to dispense from the authorities above him. Then, some of the notes being only locally negotiable, my friend had to go to a third authority to get these notes cashed. Each check makes a charge for cashing a check on another bank, and these charges practically swallow up the tiny amount of interest nominally allowed on a constant balance. And this is how the daily routine of banking is conducted in the first bank of Marseilles—Longman's Magazine.

The Athletic Association.
This Association, called the "Bloomfield Cyclers," is such a decided benefit to the community that we regret failing to call attention to some important defects in the management of their house.

Complaints have reached us from the Glen Ridge people, and we do not understand why the Association has not responded to the call, claim that they would have put out the fire with reasonable dispatch. When difficulties are overcome by the building of the new fire house, they will remove to a suitable place as yet, in which to house their apparatus, nor means of promptly getting an alarm.

The Athletic Association.
The experience of this fire shows that at present the Glen Ridge firemen are under a serious disadvantage in having no suitable place as yet, in which to house their apparatus, nor means of promptly getting an alarm.

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The fact that the Association started as a Cycling Club should not induce the managers to undertake the importation of other sports, and while there are grave objections to bicycle races, these can be no bone to a poor, billion, or what tournament, and the like to these games in themselves. When the meetings of the Association were changed from the 1st to the 15th of the month, the members could not afford to pay the interest necessary for the board to use extra care and judgment. In at least one instance, a serious blemish has been made in giving the use of the rooms to outside parties, and houses have quietly dropped out; such an error, however, is not likely to happen again, but more attention should be paid to the condition of the bowling alleys.

Lookout for "Rop backs."
The Borough question has been a bone to the reporters, but having passed into the limbo of moundous issues, garrulism is resorted to in order to elicit a transient spark of interest.

The latest attempt at revival is a rumor that Mayor Rudd had designed. It should have been "every government is as bad as the people will permit it to be." This being so let us make a determined effort to defeat this proposed capture by the Newark gang of political cornrourants, and make other such attempts impossible by restoring our old constitutional right of supervising and correcting our servants' acts by the just now shelved Referendum: Let the people rule.

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NOTES AND EVENTS.

On Tuesday night the Bloomfield Cadets were treated to an oyster supper by Perkins, the Washington Street confectioner.

The boys fully appreciated the attention shown them, and before leaving offered a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Perkins.

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the play "The Duchess of Malfi" at the residence of Mr. S. Van Bokkelen, on November 15th, will meet again together with another called "My Aunt's Peacock."

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QUEEN FINANCIAL METHODS.

How the Daily Routine of Banking is Conducted in Marseilles.

We had to make our way through a crowd occupying a large room or small hall in which business was conducted. This hall was filled with people, some of whom were there to look after their own or other people's affairs, and others of whom had been dropped in for a change of position. The men behind the scenes, however, had a hard task stamped with a stamp of approval. When my friend made his way to the scene, he, behind which stood not a cloak, but an ordinary porter wearing the livery of the bank. This porter had his hands full of similar metal disks. After a weary waiting called out the number—say, 303—on my friend's disk.

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